

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid comprising the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 ~~human gene encoding an RNA of about 50 to about 120 nucleotides, wherein a first portion of the RNA of 18 to 24 nucleotides is at least 50% complementary to a second portion of the RNA sequence of 18 to 24 nucleotides, and wherein at one of the first or second portion of the RNA is at least 50% complementary to a binding site sequence of 18 to 24 nucleotides of a target human gene.~~
2. (currently amended) An isolated ~~human gene comprising a plurality of genes according to claim 1~~ RNA of 18 to 24 nucleotides encoded by the nucleic acid of claim 1.
3. (canceled)
4. (currently amended) ~~The A gene encoding the nucleic acid of claim 1~~, wherein said gene is maternally transferred by a cell to at least one daughter cell of said cell.
5. (currently amended) ~~The gene RNA of claim + 2~~, wherein expression of said gene RNA is capable of promoting expression of said a target human gene.
6. (canceled)
7. (currently amended) ~~The RNA of gene according to claim + 2~~ wherein said encoded RNA is capable of modulating expression of said a target human gene.
8. (currently amended) ~~The RNA of gene according to claim + 2 wherein the RNA is at least 50% complementary to a said binding site sequence of 18 to 24 nucleotides of a target human gene and wherein the binding site sequence is located in an untranslated region of RNA encoded by said target gene.~~
9. (currently amended) ~~The RNA of gene according to claim 8 wherein the binding site sequence is located in the 3'untranslated region of the RNA encoded by said target human gene.~~
10. (currently amended) A vector comprising the ~~gene~~ nucleic acid of claim 1.
11. (withdrawn) A method of selectively inhibiting translation of at least one gene, comprising introducing the vector of claim 10 into a cell.
12. (withdrawn) A method according to claim 11 and wherein said introducing comprises utilizing RNAi pathway.

13. (previously amended) A gene expression inhibition system comprising the vector of claim 10 and a means for inserting said vector into a cell.
14. (currently amended) A probe comprising the gene nucleic acid of claim 1.
15. (withdrawn) A method of selectively detecting expression of at least one gene, comprising using the probe of claim 14.
16. (original) A gene expression detection system comprising: the probe of claim 14; and a gene expression detector functional to selectively detect expression of at least one gene.
17. (new) An isolated RNA of about 50 to 77 nucleotides encoded by the nucleic acid of claim 1.
18. (new) An isolated RNA of about 22 nucleotides encoded by the nucleic acid of claim 1.
19. (new) An isolated nucleic acid complementary to the nucleic acid of claim 1.
20. (new) An isolated nucleic acid complementary to the nucleic acid of claim 2.
21. (new) An isolated nucleic acid complementary to the nucleic acid of claim 18.